Purchase Centres of FCI

†2675. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India has established purchase centres for purchasing foodgrains;

(b) the number of purchase centres operating in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh from April to July, 2001; and

(c) the number of purchase centres operating in the above States from April to July, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The number of purchase centres operated by FCI and State Govt./Agencies during the year 2001-02 in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh were as under:

State Govt.	FCI	State Govt./ Agencies	Jointly	Total
Punjab	439	1071	74	1584
Haryana	55	285	30	370
Uttar Pradesh	—	4400	—	4400
Bihar	37	—	—	37
Madhya Pradesh	22	875	–	897

(c) The number of purchase centres to be operated in the above States during the period from April to July in the year 2002-03 will be as follows:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

State Govt.	FCI	State Govt/ Agencies.	Jointly	Total
Punjab	489	1068	89	1646
Haryana	68	211	52	331
Bihar	40	2000	—	2040
Madhya Pradesh	198	—	590	788

In Uttar Pradesh, District Magistrates have been authorised to open purchase centres as per local requirements.

Wastage of Foodgrains

†2676. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains are wasted during the process of keeping the foodgrains in the godowns of Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the foodgrains wasted during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 in these godowns, year-wise; and

(c) the loss in terms of rupee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes Sir. Since foodgrains are perishable commodities, storage losses do occur. The reasons amongst others, are multiple handling, long storage, pest attack and also due to exposure to vagaries of atmospheric condition.

(b) and (c) The accounts for the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 have not been audited. The projected storage losses and its value as per the performance budget are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.